

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nilsson Examiner: Unknown  
 Serial No: 10/089,746 Art Unit: Unknown  
 For: CONNECTING DEVICE  
 Filed: 3 April 2002 Date: 16 July 2002

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 37 CFR 1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months after the filing date of the application, so it is timely filed without payment of a fee. It transmits search references from the PCT prosecution.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.56(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13, at 25.

This Information Disclosure Statement is made to comply with the duty of candor imposed on all individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of this application, as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(c).

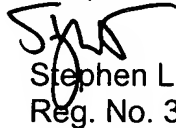
Four (4) foreign patent documents are listed on the attached one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A which is made a part hereof. A copy of each is enclosed. Also enclosed, but not listed on the form, is a copy of a search report from the European

Swedish Patent Office on PCT application SE99/01308, on which this application is based.

The search report, dated 28 July 2000, uses the international conventions for citation of prior art, and all references are considered "X" references. As indicated from the search report, there do not appear to be any English language equivalents for the Reference AD, which is in Norwegian. The other references are in English.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information known to the inventor or contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to each of the undersigned at that date. Prompt consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen L. Grant  
Reg. No. 33,390

Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP  
1225 West Market Street  
Akron, Ohio 44313  
330/864-5550  
Atty. Docket: 114402-5